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JAMES A. NOYES, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331
Telephone: (626) 458-5100
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ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
P.O. BOX 1460
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

May 27, 2004

IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE: **GME-3**

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**REVISIONS TO TITLE 26 RELATING TO PLAN CHECK FEES
FOR THE GEOTECHNICAL REVIEW OF GRADING PLANS
ALL SUPERVISORAL DISTRICTS
3 VOTES**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD AFTER THE PUBLIC HEARING:

Find that the proposed Ordinance, amending Section 107.9 of Title 26 of the County Code to increase the fees charged for the geotechnical review of grading plans, is being adopted to meet operational expenses, and is therefore exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Section 21080(b)(8) of the Public Resources Code and Section 15273 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (the State CEQA Guidelines).

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Public Works has performed a study of the current fee structure for the geotechnical review of grading plans versus the cost of providing the services. This study indicates that the fees currently charged for these activities are not sufficient to recover the estimated reasonable cost of performing these activities.

The proposed Ordinance, if adopted, will increase the fees charged for the geotechnical review of grading plans to an amount sufficient to recover the estimated reasonable cost of performing these activities.

The Auditor-Controller has reviewed and approved the fee revisions contained in the proposed Ordinance.

The fees for providing these services were last revised in 2002.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

This action is consistent with the County Strategic Plan Goal of Fiscal Responsibility as the proposed Ordinance, if adopted, will revise the fees charged for the County's geotechnical review of grading plans to more accurately reflect the estimated reasonable cost of these activities, and thereby provide sufficient funds for full recovery of all related costs associated with these activities.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

If adopted, the proposed Ordinance will increase the revenues generated from the fees charged for the geotechnical review of grading plans to an amount sufficient to recover the estimated reasonable cost of performing these activities.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Pursuant to Sections 66014 and 66016 of the Government Code, permit fees charged by local agencies generally must not exceed the estimated reasonable cost of the regulatory activities for which the fees are charged. See also, Health and Safety Code Section 17951 and Mills v. County of Trinity, 108 Cal.App.3d 656, (Cal.App. 3 Dist., 1980).

Pursuant to Sections 54986 and 66016 of the Government Code, prior to approving an increase in an existing fee, your Board must hold a public hearing, at which oral or written presentations may be made, as part of a regularly scheduled meeting. Notice of the time and place of the meeting must be mailed at least 14 days prior to the meeting to any interested party who files a written request with the Executive Officer of the Board or mailed notice of meetings on new or increased fees or charges. Additionally, notice of the time and place of the meeting must be published for ten days in a newspaper regularly published once a week or more often. Further, at least ten days prior to the meeting, your Board must make available to the public data indicating the amount of cost, or estimated cost, required to provide the service, or the cost of enforcing any regulation for which the fee is levied and the revenue sources anticipated to provide the service or the cost of enforcing any regulation, including general fund revenues.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
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As of the date of this item, no valid written request for mailed notice of meetings on new or increased fees or charges was on file with either Public Works or the Executive Officer of the Board.

Data indicating the amount of cost, or estimated cost, required to provide the service for which the fee is levied and the revenue sources anticipated to provide the service, including General Fund revenues, has been available to the public at the Executive Office of the Board since May 25, 2004.

The proposed Ordinance has been reviewed and approved as to form by County Counsel.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

No adverse impact.

CONCLUSION

Please return one copy of the adopted letter and the Ordinance to Public Works.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES A. NOYES
Director of Public Works

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Enc.

cc: Chief Administrative Office
County Counsel

INSTRUCTION SHEET FOR PUBLISHING
LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS

TO: Executive Officer
Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles

FROM: Department of Public Works
Geotechnical and Materials Engineering Division

**NOTICE OF HEARING
REVISIONS TO TITLE 26
RELATING TO PLAN CHECK FEES FOR THE
GEOTECHNICAL REVIEW OF GRADING PLANS**

Publishing

Pursuant to Section 66018 of the California Government Code, prior to adopting an ordinance approving an increase in an existing fee, a local agency shall hold a public hearing. In accordance with Section 6062a of the California Government Code, the Executive Officer shall publish notice of the hearing. Publication of the notice shall be for ten days in a newspaper regularly published once a week or more often. Two publications, with at least five days intervening between the dates of the first and last publication, not counting such publication dates are sufficient. The period of notice commences upon the first day of publication and terminates at the end of the tenth day, including therein the first day.

Forward five reprints of the attached advertisement to the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Geotechnical and Materials Engineering Division, P.O. Box 1460, Alhambra, California 91802-1460.

Should there be any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. Michael A. Montgomery of this office, at (626) 458-4923, Monday through Thursday, 6:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.

Attach.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
PROPOSED FEE INCREASE**

Notice is hereby given that a public meeting will be held by the Board of Supervisors regarding an increase to the fees for the geotechnical review of grading plans.

Said hearing will be held on _____, at 9:30 a.m., in the Hearing Room of the Board of Supervisors, Room 381B, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street (corner of Temple Street and Grand Avenue), Los Angeles, California 90012.

Data indicating the amount of cost, or estimated cost, required to provide the service for which the above fees are levied and the revenue sources anticipated to provide the service, including General Fund revenues, if any, shall be made available to the public at least ten (10) days prior to the hearing. The data will be available at the Executive Office of the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, Room 383, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California 90012.

The Board of Supervisors will consider and may adopt the fee increase. Further notice is given that the Board of Supervisors may continue this hearing from time to time.


Written comments may be sent to the Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors at the above address. If you do not understand this notice or need more information, please contact Michael Montgomery of the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, at (626) 458-4923, Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Si, no entiende este anuncio o necesita mas informacion, por favor llamar a Rossana D'Antonio al (626) 458-4923, de lunes a jueves, 7 a.m. a 5 p.m.

ANALYSIS

This ordinance amends Section 107.9 of Title 26 - Building Code of the Los Angeles County Code to increase the amount of the fees charged for the geotechnical review of grading plans.

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL

By 
MARK YANAI
Principal Deputy County Counsel
Public Works Division

MTY:ia

04/29/04 (Requested)

05/15/04 (Revised)

ORDINANCE NO. _____

An ordinance amending Section 107.9 of Title 26 - Building Code of the Los Angeles County Code, to increase the fees charged for the geotechnical review of grading plans.

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles ordains as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 107.9 is hereby amended to read as follows:

107.9 Other Fees. The following fees shall be paid before a permit is issued, inspection made, occupancy allowed or device operated:

1. In addition to the fees set forth in Items A through K, below, for
issuance of each inspection application receipt \$ 22.00
- A. For a site inspection not otherwise covered herein by a
fee and which is regulated by the Los Angeles County
Code \$ 333.90
- B. For inspection of any use, occupancy or change in use or
occupancy:
Group R or U Occupancies \$ 173.30
Occupancy groups other than R or U
Affected floor area:
Less than 5,000 square feet (464.5 m²) \$ 427.00
5,001 to 10,000 square feet (464.6 m² to 929 m²) \$ 513.90

10,001 to 100,000 square feet (929.9 m ² to 9290.3 m ²)	\$ 854.40
Above 100,000 square feet (9290.3 m ²)	\$1,295.10
C. For inspection of the repair or rehabilitation of a building or structure declared substandard by notice filed with the Department of Registrar-Recorder the fee shall be as set forth in Table No. 1-A, but not less than	\$ 301.60
D. For inspection of the demolition (including sewage system termination) of a building or structure	\$ 129.60
E. For inspection or reinspection of Group A, Division 4 structures, each	\$ 173.30
F. For inspection of structures or devices regulated by Chapter 66, the first inspection of the first structure or device	\$ 129.60
And, for each additional structure or device	\$ 20.80
G. For application and investigation for relocation building permits as required by Chapter 34:	
Floor area:	
Up to 2,500 square feet (232.2 m ²)	\$ 345.10
2,501 square feet (232.3m ²) and above	\$ 690.20
H. For investigation and/or permit for trailer coaches required by Chapter 69	\$ 128.20
I. For inspection outside of normal business hours, per hour	\$ 77.70

- J. For inspection for which no fee is specifically indicated, per hour \$ 77.70
 - K. For inspection of barriers for swimming pools, spas and hot tubs \$ 73.00
 - 2. For search of office records and a single copy of a microfilmed permit \$ 2.30
 - For each hour responding to public records requests which do not reasonably describe identifiable records \$ 27.20
 - 3. For approval in concept review pursuant to the 1976 Coastal Act (Section 30,000, et seq., Public Resources Code) \$ 103.20
 - 4. For geotechnical site review and processing geology or engineering reports submitted pursuant to Sections 110, 111, 113, 1804, and Appendix Section 3309:
 - A. Geotechnical review of building plans and geotechnical reports
 - Geotechnical site review (to determine if geotechnical reports are required) \$ 275.30

Geotechnical report, site, and plan review (review of initial and two addenda reports)	.42 % of the valuation of the proposed structure
Review of Geotechnical addenda beyond third review	\$95.60/hr.
B. Geotechnical site inspections and Geotechnical report review PRIOR to building permit application	
Geotechnical site review (to determine if geotechnical reports are required)	\$ 275.30
Geotechnical report and plan review prior to building Permit application (per review)	\$ 545.50
C. Geotechnical review of grading plans	
1 -- 1,000 cubic yards (0.8 -- 764.6 m ³)	\$316.90 <u>461.00</u>
1,001 -- 10,000 cubic yards (765 -- 7645.5 m ³)	\$420.80 <u>618.00</u>
10,000 -- 100,000 cubic yards (7646 -- 76460 m ³)	\$592.20 <u>845.00</u>
100,001 -- 500,000 cubic yards (76461 -- 382300 m ³)	\$794.80 <u>1,113.00</u>
500,001+ cubic yards (382301 m ³)	\$794.80 <u>1,113.00</u>
	+ \$52.00 <u>70.00</u> /
	100,000 cubic yards of additional grading

D. Geotechnical report and grading plan review (review of initial and two addenda reports)	
1 -- 1,000 cubic yards (0.8 -- 764.6 m ³)	\$ 950.70
1,001 -- 10,000 cubic yards (765 -- 7645.5 m ³)	\$1,428.60
10,001 -- 100,000 cubic yards (7646 -- 76460 m ³)	\$1,735.10
100,001 -- 500,000 cubic yards (76461 -- 382300 m ³)	\$2,379.30
500,001+ cubic yards (382301 m ³)	\$2,379.30 +
	\$103.90/100,000
	cubic yards of
	additional grading
Review of Geotechnical addenda beyond third review	\$95.60/hr.
5. For processing coastal engineering reports	\$ 307.10
6. For determining occupant load for purposes of parking requirements pursuant to Title 22 (Zoning Ordinance)	\$ 86.70
7. Reproduction of microfilmed plans plus \$2.30 for each sheet to be reproduced	\$ 24.70
8. Assignment of house numbers	\$ 42.70
9. For additional review required by changes, additions or revisions of approved or resubmitted plans or reports, per hour	\$ 86.70
10. For additional review required beyond the initial and second check of plans or reports, per hour	\$ 86.70

11.	For the issuance of a certificate of occupancy	\$ 80.20
12.	For the issuance of a temporary certificate of occupancy	\$ 120.20
13.	For each extension of a temporary certificate of occupancy	\$ 80.20
14.	For processing of 45-day notice pursuant to Section 103.4	\$ 350.00
15.	For processing and recording a Notice of Violation pursuant to Section 103.4	\$ 278.20
16.	For processing and recording a Rescission of Notice of Violation pursuant to Section 103.4	\$ 239.20

[1079Title26MYCOC]



JAMES A. NOYES, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

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June 17, 2004

IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE: GME-3

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: James A. Noyes
Director of Public Works

BOARD AGENDA DATE: JUNE 22, 2004
REVISIONS TO TITLE 26 RELATING TO PLAN CHECK FEES FOR THE
GEOTECHNICAL REVIEW OF GRADING PLANS

Item 13 on the June 22, 2004, agenda requests your approval of an ordinance amending Section 107.9 of the Los Angeles County Building Code (Title 26). The Ordinance revises the fee schedule for the geotechnical review of grading plans.

Public Works performed a yearlong study of the current fee structure for the review of geotechnical reports, grading and building plans, and subdivisions versus the cost of providing the services. This study indicated that the fees charged for the review of grading plans are insufficient to recover the costs associated with providing this service. The revenues versus expenditures of the remainder of the services that we perform are relatively neutral.

During the study, the time required to review 56 grading plans was documented and modifications to our fee structure proposed. The existing and proposed fees for the geotechnical review of grading plans are as follows:

<u>Cubic Yards of Grading</u>	<u>Current Fees</u>	<u>Proposed Fees</u>
1-1,000	\$316.90	\$460
1,001-10,000	\$420.80	\$618
10,001-100,000	\$592.20	\$845
100,001-500,000	\$794.80	\$1113
500,000+	\$794.80 + \$52/100k	\$1113 + \$70/100k

Based upon our analysis and as confirmed by the Auditor-Controller, the revised fees will recover the actual costs of providing the public with these services. These fee changes have been reviewed and approved by the Land Development Advisory

Each Supervisor
June 17, 2004
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Committee, which includes representatives of the Building Industry Association and various residential and commercial developers throughout the region.

If you have any questions, please call me or your staff may contact Reza Izadi at (626) 458-4911.

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cc: Supervisor Gloria Molina (Carrie Sutkin)
Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke (Chuck Bookhammer)
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky (Maria Chong-Castillo)
Supervisor Don Knabe (Curt Pedersen)
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich (Paul Novak)
Chief Administrative Office
Executive Office